

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A common password method is disclosed which provides both convenience and security assurance for users who have multiple accounts protected by passwords.

According to the present invention, a user only needs to remember a common password

5 to access any of the user's accounts. A designated password for each account is generated by a hash function of the common password and some account-dependent information. The hash value is calculated at the user's computer, and then submitted as a designated password to a server. Thus, each account is protected by the distinct designated password, and the common password is never revealed in an unauthorized
10 manner.